News Bulletin

Bureau of Narcotics & Dangerous Drugs

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

health.mo.gov/safety/bndd/index.php

DEA to Allow Narcotic Treatment Programs to Use Mobile Components

Previously, a licensed and registered Narcotic Treatment Program (NTP) was only authorized to conduct activities with controlled substances at their registered location. The DEA published a final rule on June 28, 2021 in the Federal Register, (Vol. 86, No. 121) to allow NTPs to use vehicles to provide services away from their licensed addresses. The mobile units would operate under the existing controlled substance registration and no additional registrations would be required.

Mobile units may stock, administer, and dispense controlled substances in Schedules II, III, IV, and V as long as the mobile unit stays in the same state. These units must be licensed vehicles that are self-propelled to travel on public roads. It cannot be a trailer. The units must return back home to their registered NTP location each night.

The NTP must have a security and contingency plan in case the vehicle breaks down away from the NTP facility. These vehicles are not approved for ambulance EMS transport or to act as mobile hospitals. The vehicles may deliver ongoing comprehensive services such as counseling and drug testing. The vehicles may be parked to provide services at a correctional facility or jail for a day.

Narcotic Treatment Programs that are interested in starting a mobile unit should contact their local DEA Diversion Program Field Office. In Missouri, contact the St. Louis office at (314) 538-4600. Missouri BNDD will follow the DEA's plan and allow the same activity without an additional registration.

Missouri Enacts Statewide PDMP Legislation

Governor Michael Parson signed <u>Senate Bill 63</u> creating Missouri's first statewide prescription drug monitoring program. This has been a longtime effort for Missouri hospitals, pharmacies, individual practitioners, and many other citizens and health care associations. Missouri BNDD has communicated and met with the Office of Administration in reviewing steps to implement the legislation. A breakdown of the key issues include:

- The PDMP is to be placed in the Office of Administration.
- There will be Joint Oversight Task Force established of practitioners who are already seated on state licensing boards. There will be two physicians, two pharmacists, a dentist, and a nurse practitioner.
- The Office of Administration and task force may hire employees as required to plan, implement, and operate the program and apply for grants, draft and promulgate regulations, and prepare bid proposals to contract with a vendor to handle the prescription data.
- The law requires the state to hold an open bid process to contract with a vendor to manage the prescription data and reporting.
- Dispensers will begin reporting prescriptions once every 24 hours with plans in later years to move to real-time reporting.
- The prescription data may be queried by individual prescribers and pharmacies. Data may only be released to regulatory authorities as authorized by HIPAA.
- The existing St. Louis County PDMP will continue until the state has the statewide PDMP fully functional. Once the statewide program is operating, then the St. Louis County PDMP data can be transferred over to the state system.

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The DEA's next scheduled drug take-back day is October 23, 2021. Each collection point must be sponsored by and accompanied by law enforcement. Law enforcement agencies wanting to host a collection site should visit DEA's website at www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov and click on the drug take-back link to enroll.

Current BNDD Registrants

REGISTRANT TYPE	NUMBER
Advanced Practice Nurses	2,305
Ambulatory Surgery Centers	118
Analytical Labs	54
Assistant Physicians	20
Correctional Centers/Jails	106
Dentists (DMD)	722
Dentists (DDS)	2,032
Distributors	27
EMS Ambulance Services	308
Exporters	13
Hospice Facilities	9
Hospitals	172
Importers	12
LTCF - Automated Machines	45
LTC - Emergency Kits	524

REGISTRANT TYPE	NUMBER
Manufacturers	23
Mental Health Facilities (DMH)	93
Military Training	3
Narcotic Treatment Program	47
Optometrists	678
Other (BNDD, BRD Pharm)	8
Physician (DO)	3,394
Physician (MD)	18,848
Physician Assistant (PA)	517
Podiatrists (DPM)	260
Retail Pharmacies	1,280
Researchers (Business)	137
Researchers (Individuals)	122
Teaching Institutions	9
Veterinarians (DMV)	1,919
30 Licensure Types	33,805

Denied Sales of Meth-Precursor Medications at Pharmacies

There are times when the NPLEx pseudoephedrine tracking system denies a sale to a customer. The customer may be disappointed and want to know why the system denied their sale. The NPLEx system is set up so that the customer can contact them and ask why their sale was denied. Pharmacies are asked to write down the date, time, and transaction number of the denial and then provide the customer with the toll free NPLEx telephone number of (888)-520-6384. Please keep this telephone number handy by your front counter so that customers can make inquiries about their transactions.

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